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Man Sentenced to Prison for Long Beach Killing

A 28-year-old man was sentenced today to 50 years to life in state prison for shooting a passerby in 2015, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On Nov. 15, 2017, a jury found Jorge Luis Rodriguez Cruz (dob 7/8/89) guilty of first-degree murder in case NA102101. Jurors also found true a special allegation that the defendant personally and intentionally discharged a handgun, which caused great bodily injury and death to the victim.

Deputy District Attorney Delanee Hicks, who prosecuted the case, said on the morning of June 22, 2015, Cruz was in a Long Beach alleyway creating a commotion when two women confronted him.

As the women and Cruz were having an exchange, the defendant yelled at a passerby, victim Douglas Jerome Wilson Jr., the prosecutor said.

Cruz continued to antagonize Wilson and the victim got ready to fight back, but was separated by the two women, the prosecutor added. The defendant then pulled out a gun and fatally shot Wilson, 37.

More than two months after the killing, authorities located Cruz and arrested him in connection with the murder.

The case was investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.